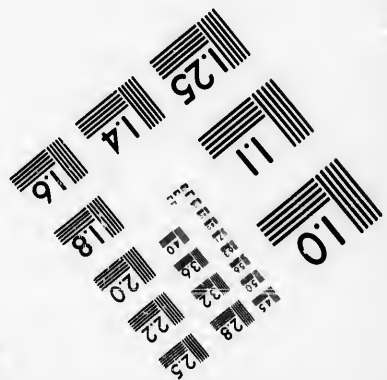
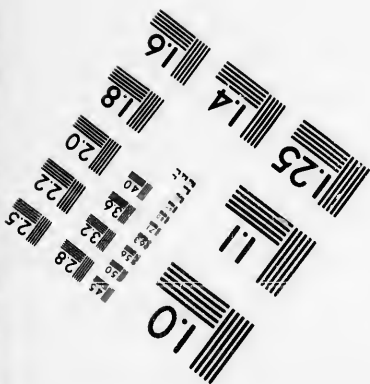
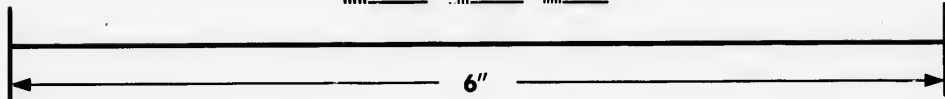
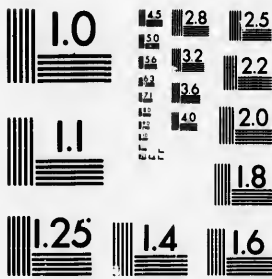


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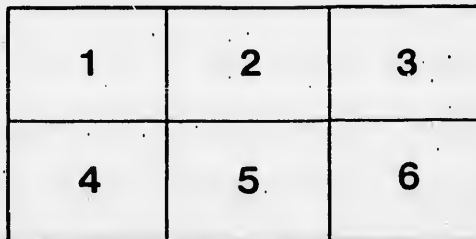
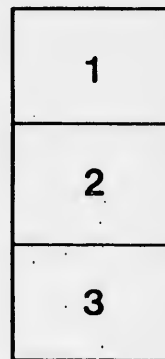
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9 June 1859

EDWARD JOHN, BY THE GRACE OF GOD AND THE FAVOR OF THE
APOSTOLIC SEE, BISHOP OF KINGSTON.

To the Clergy and Laity of our Diocess, health and benediction in the Lord.

DEARLY BELOVED BRETHREN :

Our Holy Father has addressed to the universal church the following Encyclical Letter, which we hasten to communicate to you. You will listen with respectful attention and profound reverence to the words of the Vicar of Christ, and obedient to his orders you will not fail to offer up fervent prayers to the Throne of Mercy that we may obtain and enjoy the blessings of peace.

ENCYCLICAL LETTER OF HIS HOLINESS POPE PIUS IX.

To our venerable Brethren the Patriarchs, Primates, Archbishops, Bishops, and other Ordinaries having grace and communion with the Apostolic See.

VENERABLE BRETHREN, HEALTH AND APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION :

“At a time when, during these holy and festive days, Venerable Brethren, our Holy Mother, the Church, with one accord throughout the whole world is celebrating the anniversary solemnity of the Paschal Sacrament, and recalls to the memory of all her faithful children the most joyful words of that most sweet peace, which the only begotten Son of God, Christ Jesus Our Lord, after He had conquered death, and overthrown the tyranny of the devil, and was risen again, frequently and most lovingly announced to His Apostles and Disciples, at such a time behold! the sad cry of war is raised among Catholic Nations, and is sounding in the ears of all. We, therefore, since, although unworthy, we hold here upon earth the Office of Vicar of Him, who, when He was born of the Immaculate Virgin, announced by His angels peace to men of good will, and who, when He had risen from the dead, and was about to ascend up into Heaven to sit down at the right hand of His Father, left peace to His disciples. We cannot refrain, for the singular and entirely paternal love and solicitude by which we are urged especially towards Catholic people, from again and again crying PEACE, and from often repeating unto all with the utmost vehemence of our soul the very words of Our Divine Redeemer, Peace be with you! Peace be with you! And with these words of peace we most lovingly exhort you, Venerable Brethren, who have been called to share our solicitude, to excite with all diligence and zeal the Faithful committed to your care, to pray unto the Most High God, that He may grant unto all his most wished for peace. For this reason then, in our pastoral office, we have not omitted to order public prayers throughout the whole of our Pontifical dominion, to be offered up to the most clement Father of Mercies. But follow-

ing the illustrious examples of our predecessors, we have determined to fly also to your prayers, and to the prayers of the whole Church. Wherefore, with these letters we earnestly require of you, Venerable Brethren, according to your singular devotion, to order public prayers in your diocese as soon as may be, by which the Faithful committed to your charge, after having invoked the most powerful patronage of the Immaculate and Most Holy Mother of God the Virgin Mary, may earnestly pray and beseech God, who is rich in mercy, that, through the merits of His only begotten Son Our Lord Jesus Christ, He may turn away his indignation from us, and remove wars far away, even to the end of the earth—that he may enlighten the minds of all with His divine grace, and inflame the hearts of all with the love of Christian peace; and that by His omnipotent power He may bring to pass, that all men, being rooted and grounded in faith and love, may most diligently keep His commandments, and with humble and contrite heart implore pardon for their sins, that turning from evil and doing good, they may walk in the paths of justice, and may possess and practise a continual mutual love among themselves; that so they may obtain a salutary peace with God, with themselves, and with all mankind. We do not doubt, Venerable Brethren, that in your manifest respect towards Our Person and the Apostolic See, you will be zealous in most diligently obeying these Our desires and prayers. But that the Faithful with more ardent zeal and more abundant fruit may persevere in the prayers to be determined by you, we have thought it well to confer and bestow upon them the treasures of heavenly rewards, the dispensation of which the Most High has entrusted to Us. Wherefore, to the same Faithful, We grant an indulgence of three hundred days, in the accustomed form of the Church, to be gained as often as they devoutly take part in and recite the above-mentioned prayers. Moreover, during the time of these prayers, We grant to the same Faithful a Plenary Indulgence, to be gained once only in the month, on that day, on which, having duly purified themselves by sacramental confession, and being refreshed with the most Holy Eucharist, they shall religiously visit some Church, and there offer up devout prayers to God with the same intention. Lastly, there is nothing more pleasing to Us than to take this occasion of again testifying and confirming the singular good will which we bear towards you all, Venerable Brethren. And of this Our most earnest good will towards you, let the pledge be Our Apostolic Benediction, which from our inmost heart we most lovingly bestow upon yourselves, Venerable Brethren, and upon all the Faithful, clergy and people, committed to the charge of each one among you.

“Given at Rome, at St. Peter's, this 27th day of April, in the year of Our Lord 1853. In the year of Our Pontificate the thirteenth.”

As children of the Catholic Church we cannot but take a deep interest in the war which has just broken out, and which menaces the temporal States of the Church. We fear not for the Church of Christ: the promises of Christ are unfailing, the bark of Peter which has withstood the storms of eighteen hundred years will easily resist the present tempest; guided by her Divine Pilot, she will triumphantly continue on her way through the sea of ages long after the present dynasties of Europe shall have disappeared from the face of the earth. Yet, B. B., though such be our firm conviction, it is our duty to pray with fervor that God, in his infinite mercy, would avert the calamities which our sins deserve, and that he would guard His Holy Church and shield, and protect the Pastor and the flock from the horrors of war.

In obedience to the desires of the Holy Father, we have prescribed and do hereby prescribe as follows :

1st. From the day of publication of the present letter until the end of the war, on each Sunday and festival of obligation, at the close of morning service 5 *Paters* and 5 *Aves* are to be offered up in all churches and chapels where service is performed.

2nd. Every priest will add to the ordinary prayers at daily mass, the prayer *pro pace*, in conformity with the Rubrics.

This our present letter is to be read in all the churches and chapels of this Diocess on the first Sunday after its reception.

Given at the Episcopal residence at Kingston under our hand and seal this 9th of June, 1859.

L. † S.

† E. J., *Bp. of Kingston.*

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Decret, 23 Maii, 1835.

